

PLECTRANTHUS PLANT NAMED 'CAPE ANGELS WHITE'

Latin name of genus and species of the plant claimed:

Plectranthus hybridus

Variety denomination:

5 Cape Angels White

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates to a new and distinct cultivar of *Plectranthus* plant, botanically known as *Plectranthus hybridus* (Family Lamiaceae), hereinafter referred to by the name 'Cape Angels White'.

10 The new *Plectranthus*, 'Cape Angels White', is a new and distinct mutation (sport), detected in a production batch of *Plectranthus hybridus*, 'Cape Angels Pink' (U.S. Plant Patent application filed concurrently herewith) by the Inventor, Gert Johannes Brits, in Kortegaard, Nørre Søby, Denmark. The objective of the breeding program in which the mutation was detected

15 is to improve current blue market cultivar 'Edelbau' by developing more compact growth habit, larger flowers and improved vigor. The new *Plectranthus* originated from a hybrid backcross by the Inventor between a proprietary selection of *Plectranthus saccatus* named 'F1' (unpatented) and a proprietary selection of unnamed *Plectranthus hilliardiae* (unpatented). The

new cultivar has been produced only by vegetative propagation (cuttings).

The Inventor selected the new *Plectranthus* cultivar from the progeny of the above cross on the basis of its compact growth habit, larger flowers and increased vigor.

5 Asexual reproduction of the new cultivar by terminal cuttings taken and propagated, has shown that each of the progenies exhibit characteristics identical to the original plant. These characteristics have been shown to come true to form through many generations of asexual propagation under commercial production conditions in Nr. Lyndelse, Fyn,
10 Denmark. The present invention has been tested under lighted greenhouse conditions and for keeping quality in a consumer environment, but may differ in various aspects if grown under different conditions.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

Plants of the cultivar 'Cape Angels White' have not been observed
15 under all possible environmental conditions. The phenotype may vary somewhat with variations in environment such as temperature, light intensity, day length, and fertility level without, however, any variance in genotype.

The following traits have been repeatedly observed and are
20 determined to be the unique characteristics of 'Cape Angels White'. These characteristics in combination distinguish 'Cape Angels White' as a new

and distinct cultivar:

1. White flowers with purple spots, upright corolla lip;
2. Compact and freely branching plant habit;
- 5 3. Shorter production time; and
4. Shiny green foliage.

Side-by-side comparisons between the instant plant and the "mother"
10 cultivar 'Cape Angels Pink' were conducted by the Inventor. Plants of 'Cape
Angels White' differ from 'Cape Angels Pink' in the following characteristics:

1. Plants of 'Cape Angels White' have larger, almost white flowers with pink
to purple spots, while plants of 'Cape Angels Pink' have slightly smaller pink
flowers.
- 15 2. Plants of 'Cape Angels White' have better branching growth habit and
shiner foliage than plants of 'Cape Angels Pink'.
3. Plants of 'Cape Angels White' have a faster growth rate than plants of
'Cape Angels Pink'.
- 20 4. Plants of 'Cape Angels White' have an upright main lip of corolla.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

The accompanying photographic drawings illustrate the overall appearance of the new cultivar, showing the colors as true as it is reasonably possible to obtain in colored reproductions of this type. Colors in the photographs may differ slightly from the color values cited in the detailed botanical description, which more accurately describe the actual colors of 'Cape Angels White'.

The first photographic drawing shows a side perspective view of a typical flowering plant of 'Cape Angels White' as grown in 12 cm pots. The second photographic drawing shows a close-up view of typical flowering racemes of 'Cape Angels White'.

DETAILED BOTANICAL DESCRIPTION

In the following description, color references are made to The Royal Horticultural Society (RHS) Colour Chart, 4th edition. Plants were grown under greenhouse conditions. The plants described were between 15 and 18 weeks old after cutting, as grown in 12 cm pots.

Parentage: Mutation discovered in a production batch of *Plectranthus hybridus*, 'Cape Angels Pink', a hybrid backcross between proprietary selection of *Plectranthus saccatus* named 'F1' (unpatented) and unnamed *Plectranthus hilliardiae* (unpatented).

Propagation:

Type cutting. Terminal vegetative cuttings.

5 Plant description:

Form: Perennial, herbaceous plant with upright, branched plant form.

Crop time: Flowering induced by short day treatment in 12 cm pots for 4 weeks under greenhouse conditions.

10 Plant height (soil level to top of plant plane): About 20 cm.

Plant spread: About 20 cm

Stem: Upright, stiff, square, branching from base, RHS 141 B (gray green)

Vigor: Vigorous growth rate

15 Foliage description: Leaves single, ovate, serrate. Arrangement: opposite, decussate. Length: 7 cm. Width: 5 cm. Apex: Acuminate. Base: Cuneate.

Texture: adaxial: rough (hispid), shiny; abaxial: smooth, velvety. Venation: brochidodromus, prominent, green, RHS 138 A. Color, ventral side: Young foliage, upper and lower surfaces: RHS 136 A, green. Mature foliage, upper

20 and lower surfaces: RHS 136 A. Color, dorsal side: Young foliage, RHS 139 C. Mature foliage: RHS 136 A.

Petiole: 2 cm in length, hispid texture, RHS 138 A

Flower description:

Flower arrangement: Raceme of panicles.

- 5 Flower shape: Irregular labiate, flat tubular with 4 lips of different size and shape.

Flower longevity on the plant: Longevity of individual flowers is highly dependent on temperature and light conditions.

- 10 Number of flowers per inflorescence: 20; 60 per stem; up to 150 per plant.

Inflorescence size: Apical: 10 cm; Basal: 6 cm; Diameter: 6 cm.

- Buds: Length: Up to 12mm before antithesis; height: 5 mm; width: 1 mm;
15 tubular with angular "head", RHS 145 C; base RHS 145 D to white.

Petals: 5 fused to basal, flat tubular corolla. Lips spotted, velvety texture.

Top lip (2 fused) to inverted cordate form, revolute upright, 12 mm. Bottom lip involute, almost cup-shaped, 7 mm. Wing lips small, rounded, 4 mm.

- 20 Color: ventral side of lips: whiter than RHS 155 D; spots: RHS 8 A; throat: white, RHS 155 D; dorsal side: white, RHS 155 C.

Calyx: 5 pointed lobes fused at base; veins: green, RHS 138 B.

Reproductive Organs:

Stamen: 4 monoadelphous, lower part fused to corolla tube.

5 Anther: Kidney-shaped, purple, N79B

Pistil: Lower part fused to corolla tube; free part 5 mm, curling upward with cleft stigma, purple, N79B

Ovary: N144A, yellow-green

Fragrance: None

10 Weather tolerance: Plants of the new *Plectranthus* have exhibited good tolerance to drought, rain and wind, low temperature resistant to 5C.